THE LAMENTATIONS OF GERMANY.

WHEREIN,

s in a Glasse, we may behold
r miserable condition, and reade the
woefull effects of sinne.

mposed by Dr *Vincent* Theol. an eye-
nesse thereof; and illustrated by Pictures,
the more to affect the Reader.

unto are added three Letters, one where-
was sent to the Dutch Consistory in *Lon-*
don, under the hand and seales of 14. distressed
Ministers of *Strasburgen* in *Germany*.

LAMENT. 1. 12.

nothing to you, all ye that passe by? Behold
and see, if there be any sorrow like unto my sor-
row, which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord
hath afflicted me, in the day of his fierce anger.

LONDON,
nted by *E. G.* for *Iohn Rothwell*, and are to
be sold at the signe of the Sunne in
S. *Pauls* Church-yard. 1638.

To the Reader.

BEhold here, as in a Glaſſe, the mournefull face of a ſiſter Nation, now drunke with miſery; according to what God threatned by the Prophet *Ieremy*. Should I endeavour by all the memorable particulars, which might be accumulated, to amplifie this ſad theme, the third part would bee ſufficient to weary thee or blinde thy eyes with teares, if thy heart were not adamantine. I record but a ſmall portion of what I have ſeene, what I have had from ſufficient teſtimonies. Gall and Wormewood are taſted in a drop, and ſo may the great Ocean. Onely the thing I deſire, is to move thy Chriſtian heart to compaſſionate the eſtate of thy poore brethren, ſo lamentable, and almoſt deſperate, that thou mayeſt (at leaſt)

by the vials of thy prayers poured out in their behalfe helpe to appeale this wrath of Heaven which is upon them. Remembring withall, that as wee know not what hangeth over our owne heads, so we are not ignorant of our owne indeserts. Our Native Country did sometimes suffer in like manner, if not measure, as in the civill wars, and other times. Now we are free, and live in peace, every man under his owne Vine, under his owne Fig-tree; Let us not forget to bee thankfull for this unto the God of peace, and withall to shunne those provocations, for which hee maketh a fertile land barren, a populous Land desolate, even the iniquity of them that dwell therein.

Thine *P. Vincent.*

Preface Exhortatory:

Touching the uſe which is to be made of the enſuing Narration.

Men and brethren:

HEre *followes* (*according to the table*) A true repreſentation of the miſerable eſtate of Germany. *A moſt grave, ſerious, and weighty ſubject. and above all other moſt neceſſary for us to peruſe, and ponder. Wee for the preſent have* Halcion dayes. *Sitting as the people under* Salomon, Every man under his owne Vine, and Fig-tree; No complayning in our ſtreets, no carrying into Captivity. *For which all honour and praiſe be to him, whoſe mercy it is that wee are not conſumed. And yet there may be* a lengthening of our tranquility, *if wee would walke worthy of thoſe mercies which wee doe inioy, and* learne righteouſneſſe by the judgements of God, which are made manifeſt.

One especiall meanes effectually tending hereunto, is to be acquainted with the passages of Gods providence abroad, and to make such use of his dreadfull judgements as he himselfe in Scripture directs us to. For our information in the state of things abroad, these ensuing Schedules may helpe such as have no better intelligence. Wherein such passages are related, as may make both our eares tingle to heare them. *The heads insisted on are* the Arrowes of the Almighty; *Sword, Famine, and Pestilence, together with their pale and grisly attendants. Extortion, Rapine, Salvage cruelty, desolations, deaths of all kinde. A sad and dismall troope.*

The subject on which all these evils light, is Germany; *a neighbouring countrey well knowne. The Throne of Europes Empire. This is now the Stage whereon most direfull Tragedies are acted. And therein as well the* Protestants (*the more the pity*) *as the* Papists: *no difference for religions sake; nor any respect of persons, ages, sexes, or conditions.* The fowles of the ayre may therein eate the flesh of Kings, Captaines, and mighty men. The flesh of horses, and them that sit on them. Yea, the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great, *Rev.* 19. 18.

The instances and particulars which are here recorded are such as may seeme incredible, and cause wondring unto astonishment, yet is there nothing but what may well be counted probable, a few things considered. As first, what God threatens in this kinde for breach of his Law.

Deut.

Deut. 28. 53, &c. Thou ſhalt eate the fruite of thine owne body, the fleſh of thy ſonnes and daughters——. The man that is tender among you, and very delicate, his eyes ſhall be evill toward his brother, and toward the wife of his boſome, and towards the remnant of children which hee ſhall leave: ſo that he will not give to any of them the fleſh of his children, whom he ſhall eate, &c.

Then what particular inſtances we have of like things upon like occaſions in Scripture, as in the ſiege of Samaria, 2 King. 6. 28, 29. *The certainety of the generals is beyond all exception, among thoſe that will believe any thing more than they ſee with their eyes, and feele with their hands. The time, and ſpace that the warrs have endured addes much to the probability of all effects avoucht. The current yeere making up full twenty ſince the beginning. During all which* Germany *hath beene* Acheldama, a field of blood. *Vnder this word* (warre) *more evill and miſchiefe is comprehended than can be uttered. Weigh all things duly, the ſeverall kinds of warre, forraigne and domeſticke; by invaſions, by inſurrections, the ſame perſons, and places being to day Conquerours, and to morrow conquered, over and over againe, and all things every day worſe and worſe; we may well conclude,* the one halfe hath not beene told us.

I hope none among us are ſo prophane as to ſay what is this to us, be it all be true? and few ſo ignorant, as not to know what God requireth of us

in

in this regard. Yet it's too manifeſt, that moſt are ſo careleſſe, that they neede a Monitor to twit them by the eare. I have therefore partly upon intreatie, and chiefly for affection unto the thing it ſelfe, endevoured briefly to ſpeake ſomething unto that end. The Lyon hath roared, who will not feare? The Lord hath ſpoken, who can but prophecie, *Amos* 3. 8. Salvian *in his time, tooke great paines to prove there was a providence, when the then ſuppoſed barbarous* Goths *and* Vandalls *broke in upon the Empire, as the Sea doth ſometimes over flow the banke. But mee thinkes that alone were enough to manifeſt* the finger of God, *which bred the doubt in men Atheiſticall. How exceeding full is the Scripture for the proofe of this?* That God is Authour of all Judgements, and therefore in all wee ought to looke up unto him. *All Captaines and their armies are but Sergeants under* the Lord of hoſts; that man of warre, and God of battell. The Aſſyrian is the rod of Gods anger, the ſtaffe in their hand is Gods indignation, *Iſay* 10.5. There is no evill in a City but he doth it. Behold (*ſaith the Pſalmiſt*) what deſolations the Lord hath made in the earth, *Pſal.* 46.8. *If a Sparrow fall not to the ground, but* according to the will of our heavenly Father, *much leſſe are millions of men mowed downe with the ſword, but according to his righteouſneſſe in Iudgement.*

It is alſo cleare out of Scripture, that wee ought to lay to heart thoſe Iudgements of God, which wee are acquainted with, and eſpecially his greater Iudgements

God

God ſends one place to conſider of another: Goe yee now unto my place, which was in *Shilo*, where I ſet my name at the beginning, and ſee what I did to it for the wickedneſſe of my people Iſrael, *Ier.* 7. 12. *ſaith God to the men of Ieruſalem.*

And who makes queſtion, but that thoſe Churches, Nations, Perſons, *and* Places, *which have ſpeiall relation one unto another, ſacred or civill, in the bonds of Religion, neighbourhood or commerce, are more eſpecially bound mutually to conſider and bemoane one anothers conditions.*

This likewiſe is evident, that our Church and State, and every member of the ſame, ought upon ſpeciall conſideration, to be cordially affected with the miſeries of Germany. *They are of the ſame Religion with us, Chriſtians as wee are; our peace is the weaker for want of theirs; many of our owne have ſuffered with them. But above all is the affliction of that* Royall Lady, *our Gracious Soveraignes onely ſiſter, who hath ſuffered already in her Royall Perſon, and may ſuffer yet more in her poſterity, but God forbid. But what is it that wee muſt doe, or learne from the ſtate of things in* Germany? *The particulars are ſeverall in ſeverall regards. In relation to God, to them and to our ſelves.*

In regard of God. Wee muſt acknowledge the infiniteneſſe of his wiſdome and unſearchableneſſe of his Iudgements, and take heede of raſh aſſigning the cauſe. Some lay all the blame upon the Proteſtants, *as if their diviſion among themſelves, and unneceſſary ſeparation (in their phraſe) from the* Church of Rome, *were the*

root

roote of all. But is it not more likely, that Germany drinkes now of the cup of wrath, becauſe ſhee hath long drunke of the cup of ſundry great abominations? *The generall cauſe, which is ſinne, wee all acknowledge: It were a happineſſe to know the ſpeciall, according unto that,* Fœlix qui potuit rerum cognoſcere cauſas. *But ſuch a ſpirit of diſcerning God gives not unto all. They themſelves beſt know their owne waies, caſe and ſtate, and therefore wee may leave it unto them to conſider of the ſpeciall cauſes, whom it moſt concernes.* But who will not feare the Lord, and glorifie his Name, who onely is holy, and whoſe judgements are made manifeſt, *Rev.* 15.4.

In reſpect of them, firſt let us ſympathize: grieve with them that grieve. Rom. 12. 15. and weepe with them that weepe. *We are all members of one and the ſame myſticall body, whereof Chriſt is head. Our peace and ſecurity is in a great meaſure bound up in theirs: their troubles may increaſe ours; as they have already occaſioned many feares, cares and expences: Witneſſe the great levie of ſouldiers at ſome times, and not a little chargeable Embaſſages from our King and State. Next of all, we are to pray for them, that God would reſtore peace, and make up all breaches.* Giving the Lord no reſt, untill hee make *Ieruſalem* the praiſe of the earth. Abraham *interceded long for* Sodome, *how much more ought we to do the like for them? And yet further, as we have ability and opportunity, we ought to help and ſuccour them, miniſtring to their neceſſities, receiving of their profugates, and intertaining them into our*

boſomes

boſomes, when they fly from their owne to us. Many of ours found among them a ſhelter from the ſtorme in our Marian daies, *and doe ſtill, no doubt, bleſſe God for our peace, notwithſtanding their owne warres.*

In reſpect of our ſelves, there be many inſtructions which we may learne from the Lecture *of their calamities. No privileges can finally ſecure a ſinfull people; for what have we to glory in that they had not? The ſeedes of all their evills are ſowne in our fields. There be likewiſe divers duties that wee ſhould abound in the more: In repentance, leſt we bring upon our ſelves the like: In prayer, that God would bleſſe our ſtate and government, that by the wiſedome thereof we may be led along in ſuch waies as may propagate our peace unto poſterity: In patience under thoſe chaſtiſements which we ſuffer. Though the hand of God hath long beene upon many Cities and Townes, and* his Arme be ſtretched out ſtill *upon ſome of them, yet is our miſery, happineſſe, in compariſon of theirs: If a gentle plague alone have affrighted us all, What would Sword and Famine with it doe?*

But what doe wee? Wee put farre away the evill day, and cauſe the ſeat of violence to come neere: Wee drinke wine in bowles, and anoint our ſelves with the chiefe ointments, but are not grieved for the afflictions of *Ioſeph*, *Amos* 6. 3. & 6. *This*

is

is no ſmall ſinne, and if once the day of our viſitation come, a ſmall chaſtiſement on Gods part will not be all. Oh that wee would conſider, the Vials of Gods wrath are pouring forth, as well on his owne Churches for correction, as on their adverſaries unto deſtructino. *Who knowes how faſt the cup may paſſe round? Gods arrowes are all fleete.* The curſe of God goeth forth over the face of the whole earth, *Zach.* 5. 3. *If the ſinnes of* Sodome *be found in* Samaria, *and the ſinnes of* Samaria *in* Ieruſalem, *they ſhall all pledge each other: for God is no reſpecter of perſons. Are there no drunkards but in* Germany? *Or, doth God hate ſinne in them alone? What are wee, that God ſhould alwaies ſpare us? Many cry,* Peace, Peace, *and I with the Prophet* Ieremy *ſay* Amen. The Lord doe ſo, the Lord performe the words of them which propheſie of nothing but good, *Iere.* 28. 6. *But its good to remember that of the Apoſtle, when they cry,* Peace, Peace, *&c.* Gloſſ. ordin. *in Ierem.* 7. 12. Quicquid illo populo fecit Deus, timeamus: cum nos ſimilia faciamus. *Yet no ſuch clouds* (bleſſed bee God) *ariſe over our heads, as thoſe wherewith her horizon is darkned. But ſtormes ariſe ſuddenly.* God creates good and evill, *brings both when there is no appearance or cauſe of ſuſpicion. Not to feare is cauſe enough to bee affraid, if we could ſo reflect upon our ſelves:* As God brings

light

light out of darkneſſe, ſo darkneſſe out of light. *How faire roſe the Sunne upon* Sodome, *that day it rained fire and brimſtone? How poore a thing was a cloud like a mans hand, to prognoſticate abundance of raine by? But I muſt* manum de tabula. *Well then, reade on, reade and ſpare not, reade and conſider, reade and weepe, imagine the Booke to be* Germany *it ſelfe, their caſe ours, and* our ſoules in their ſoules ſtead. *Do as* Nehemiah *did when he heard of the eſtate of* Ieruſalem, *and the Temple therein* He ſate downe and wept, mourned and faſted certaine daies, and prayed before the Lord God of Heaven, *Neh.* 1.4. *Would we but doe the like for our ſelves and them, God would aſſuredly reſtore their peace, and continue ours, for which I ſhall ever heartily pray, and ſo reſt*

A well-wiſher to all the
Churches of God.

Snalles and froges eagerly eaten

Eatinge dead mens guts and Interalls

A diuines wife saw 6 of her Children ley starued before her eyes. Corne 3 pounds 18 shilling a bushell.

A Copie of a Letter ſent by the Miniſters of *Germany* to the *Dutch Church in* LONDON.

SInce the Imperialiſts paſſing the Rhine, firſt entred into our Countrey, which is almoſt two yeeres agoe, deſtruction hath come upon us like a whirlewind, and ſudden deſolation hath depopulated this our moſt flouriſhing country; our Cities are turned into Townes, our Townes into Villages, our Villages into Cottages; where before were a thouſand, there now ſcarce a hundred, and where a hundred, there the tenth is hardly left alive: Thoſe which the ſword hath ſpared, the Peſtilence hath conſumed, thoſe which the Peſtilence hath left, Famine hath deſtroyed, and the ſmall remnant which pale-fac'd Famine hath not devoured, are ſo tranſcēdently miſerable, as it

even exceeds the most hyperbolical expressions of the loftiest Rhetorician, yet that your thoughts may be elevated to a higher pitch, and more serious consideration, we will give you some instances, some examples. After that the Cæsarian forces the last yeere had taken *Swybruggen*, & passing with a numberlesse army towards *Lotharinge*, had destroyed all round about; there followed such a fearefull famin, that the most part of men, especially of thē that dwelt in the country, being urged by pressing necessity, was driven to feed on Acorns, all manner of herbs, roots, briars, nettles, grasse, leaves of trees, so that we may truly take up the complaint of the *Psalmist* (though there it's to be taken in another sense) that man is become like the beast that perisheth, but further, the entralls of beasts, the skins of beeves, sheepe, horses, the haire being first burned, was highly prised, yea Snailes, Frogs with their guts and egs, the flesh of dogs and cats, carrion that hath been dead six weeks or more, hath beene valued at a great rate,

nay,

nay, sometimes not the price, but a sword hath decided who should have a young colt, or some such thing, though not halfe a yard long. Two women did so long fight with their fists for horse-flesh, that one of of them dyed, yea, in some Famine made such a rage, that they did not abstaine from mans flesh. In a parish neere unto *Swey-bruggen*, a brother and sister surviving their parents, and the sister also dying, he (wee tremble in the very writing) fed upon his sister, and devoured the thighes of his mother, in the Dioceſſe of *Blissoe Capellana* the corpses of men starved, whose skin cleaved to their bones, so that whilest they were alive, we might truely have said, that their flesh did but infunerall their buried ghosts, yet they being dead, had their inwards, their heart and lungs taken out, and devoured, and that which is more, they have laine in waite to intercept passengers, and those whom they have taken, after they have killed them, they make their own bellies their graves. A boy of some three yeeres old, the

ſon of a ſouldier in *Biten* territory, was ſtollen and carried away by a begger, as ſhe was about to ſtrangle him with a haltar, the mother opportunely comming, reſcued him, and moved with wrath and indignation ſlew her, theſe are the fearefull effects of Famine, ſo that if we ſcape the being devoured by others, yet hunger will even famiſh us: the widow of *Iohn Peters Laëri* Miniſter, ſaw before ſhe died (O dreadfull ſpectacle) ſixe of her children periſh with Famine. The widow of *Albogaſtus Rumela* periſhed her ſelfe, and foure children, and when they are extinguiſhed by Famine (if they eſcape being eaten of others) they lie unburied, ſtinking and torne in pieces by dogs, wolves, and other beaſts. Some having eaten mad dogges, were taken with phrenſie themſelves, and ragingly dyed. Hence comes ſuch a wilderneſſe, that in 300 pariſhes, there's not any left alive, thoſe few that remaine, hide themſelves in the woods, and in the townes, the tenth man doth not ſurvive, and many of them too, having

having their ſtrength dryed up, totter to and fro, nodding and ſliding like carved pictures without life, and many being no longer able to ſtand, fall downe in the middeſt of the ſtreetes, groveling on the ground, and being onely able to aske for ſuſtenance are ready to give up the ghoſt. This is the ſtate of our afflicted Countrey, ſo that we may lament, as *Iſay*. The daughter of *Sion* is like a city of devaſtation, like a Sommer cottage in a garden, like a little houſe in a vineyard. If the Lord of Hoſts had not left us a remnant, we had beene as *Sodome* and as *Gomorrah*.

In the Dukedome of *Sweybruggen* are left

Miniſters.	40	Widowes	26.
Schoolemaſters.	16.	Children.	140.
Wives.	52.	Orphanes.	18.

Somme 292. Perſons.

In the names of all the Ministers of *Sweybrugen* sent forth under hand and seale:

Iohannes Wilthelmus. Rauschius Pastor Numbacensis. Exul.
Iohannes Christianus. Neuhorelius Pastor Ohmbacensis. Exul.

This we have had from such good hands, even from the Dutch Cō sistory in *London*, where the Originall is, that it must needes seeme malicious ignorance in any that will but faint in the beliefe hereof.

Sweybruggen.

14. Novemb. 1636.

A Copy of a Letter written by a worthy Minister of *Meissenheim*, upon the edge of the Lower *Palatinate*, the 1. of *Feb.* 1637.

Cæterum, quis patriæ nostræ afflictissimæ status sit, ex aliis procul dubio percepistis, omnia (ut Poetæ verbis utar) in pejus ruere, & retro pede lapsa referri, quocunq; enim oculos vertimus, nihil nisi miseriam, & horrendam πανολεθείαν *cernimus: Militis insolentia & truculentia omnem ferè superat fidem, Biponti ipsa Illustrissimorum Ducum ante multos annos defunctorum, spe prædæ, sepulcra violare, in eorum cadavera sævire, ossa disturbare & comminuere non veriti sunt: Annonæ Caritas tanta, quanta in his terris nunquam audita, medimnus siliginis vix octodecim comparatur Imperialibus thaleris, & cum summo vitæ periculo hûc portatur, certè nisi Deus Opt. Max. veluti* ἀπομηχανὴς *manus auxiliatrices ferat, paucissimis illis incolis, qui ad-*

Πανολεθείαν, i. A devastation of townes & villag

ἀπομηχανὴς, from above.

huc

huc superstites sunt, & hactenus maximâ partem pomis pirisque victitarunt, quoque inediâ pereundum erit; Famis Saguntinæ, Samaritanæ, Hierosolymitanæ, præ atrocissimis illis, quæ in nostrâ (prob dolor!) patriâ evenêre, exemplis ferè ludicra sunt; ante 2. hebdomadas in pago Ilvesheim Incola (vir alioquin honesti nominis) vicini sui absentis ædes intrat, aliquid panis aufert, exire volentem interpellat puer octo quasi annorum, & comminatur, quòd cognato suo, apud quem vixerat hactenus, redeunti furtum hoc propalare velit, ibi continuò sceleratus ille instinctu mali genii accurrit, & puero falce putatoria miserè jugulum abscindit: In pago Steinhausen propè Hornbacum fœmina quædam puellam 12 annorum, blandis verbis pellectam, puerumque quinque annorum molitoris filium (horresco referens) trucidavit, & cum vicinâ devoravit; Milites præsidiarii Bipontini excurrentes in pagum hunc irruunt fortuitò, & ædes infanticidæ hujus nefariæ, nidore allecti, intrant, omnes angulos rimantur, tandem vas adipe humano refertum, Caputque prius aquâ fervente macera-

tatum,

ratum, exinde in furno tostum reperiunt, ipsam captivam Bipontum trahunt, ubi 24. Ianuarii *pœnas infandi hujus infanticidii dedit meritas, seque præterito anno duos insuper liberos prope* Landoviam *&* Annæ *villam mactasse confessa est; altera fœmina, quæ particeps harum carnium fuit, adhuc in vinculis tenetur, se enim hujus facinoris affinem fuisse constanter pernegat. Talia (proh dolor!) indies audire cogimur, tristißima exempla: ô vere malesuadam famem! ô ingenia verè Cyclopica! ô horrendam metamorphosin, quâ homines omnem uhmanitatem exuentes, truculentißimarum bestiarum naturam induunt, & verè* λυκάνθρωποι, *seu* Lycaones *fiunt!*

Λυκάνθρωποι, as wolvis men-

Fredericus Goelerus,

Pastor Meissenheimensis.

The

The ſame in Engliſh.

WHat the ſtate of our moſt afflicted Countrey is, without all doubt you have perceived by others; all things (as I may uſe the words of the Poet) have runne together for the worſe, and ſlid with a backward foot, for whereſoere we caſt our eyes, wee ſee nothing but miſery, and a horrid devaſtation of townes and villages; the inſolencie and cruelty of the Souldiers exceeds all beliefe, they have not beene afraid, for the hope of prey, in *Swei-bruggen* to violate the tombes of the illuſtrious Dukes many yeares agoe deceaſed, to exerciſe cruelty on their corps, to diſturb and diminiſh their bones. The dearenesſe of proviſion is ſuch as never hath beene heard of before in this land, a buſhell of corne is ſcarſely got with 18 *Rix Dollers*, which is foure pounds one ſhilling Engliſh money; which is hither brought with the extreme danger of their lives that bring it. Surely, without our good God from above

ſhould

ſhould lend us his helping hand, thoſe few Inhabitants which yet remaine alive, and hitherto for the moſt part have lived on apples and peares muſt needs periſh. The Famine of *Saguntum*, *Samaria*, *Ieruſalem*, if they are but paralleld with thoſe moſt grievous ones (oh our griefe!) that have befalne us in our Countrey, ſeeme but trifles. About a fortnight ſince, an Inhabitant of the village of *Ilveſheim* (a man otherwiſe of a good report) comming into the houſe of his neighbour, when he was abſent, tooke a little bread, intending to goe out, a child of ſome eight yeares of age called after him, and threatned him, that when his Couſen came home, with whom he lived, that he would make manifeſt his theft preſently; that wicked fellow ranne unto him, and with a pruning hooke miſerably cut his throate. In the Village of *Steinhaus* neere *Hornebach*, a certaine woman having allured unto her with enticing words a girle of 12. yeares old, and a boy of 5, a Millers ſon (I tremble in the relating)

killed

killed them both, and devoured them with her neighbour; the Garrison Souldiers of *Sweibrugen* making an excursion by chance into this village, being drawne thither by the smell, enter the house of this infant killer; they search every corner, at last they finde a vessell full of humane grease, and a head that had beene scalded in hot water, and so baked in an oven; they carried her captive unto *Sweibruggen*, where on the 24 of *Ianuary* shee suffered condigne punishment; At her death she confest, that neere *Landovia* and the Village of *Anna*, she killd two other children the last year. The other woman, which was partaker in the eating, is still kept in prison, and constantly denies that shee was a partner in that wicked act. Such things (oh our grief!) we are compeld daily to heare, most sad examples. O ill perswading hunger, O wits truly Cyclopicke! O dreadful Metamorphosis! by which men putting off all humanity, and putting on the nature of salvage beasts, doe truly become wolvish!

Fredericus Goelerus,
Pastor of *Meissenh.*

From *Meissenheim*.
Feb. 1. 1637.

A true Copy of a Letter written by a worthy Minister,

Andreas Pilger sometimes Minister of *Heydelberg*. From *Wormbs* the 10th. of *Febr.* 1637.

ALas! What stormes and tempests doe now beat upon the ship of Jesus Christ in our Countrey? What punishments and plagues doe now oppresse us? God is justly angry with us for our manifold sinnes, and seemes in his indignation utterly to destroy us, and all that is round about us. The heavie curses of *Moses*, the bitter lamentations of *Jeremy*, and all the horrible threatnings of the holy Prophets, wee see daily here accomplished. With this new Winter-quarter, beginnes a renewing of our miseries; oppression and persecution, we being utterly destitute of all helpe and meanes to support us. The chiefest of our Countrey are forced to leave their houses and lands, and to goe a wandring in strange Countries; yea, many of them end their lives most miserably. It is impossible to expresse either the greatnesse of our wants, or the fury of Famine amongst us. Mothers forgetting their

their naturall affections towards their owne children become butchers of them, and eate them up in ſtead of food. Wee do heare daily children crying about the ſtreets, and lamenting that they dare not goe home, for feare of being killed. It is kept upon record by the Magiſtrates of this City, how that men have digged out of the graves dead bodies, and have eaten them. A woman was found dead, having a mans head roſted by her, and the rib of a man in her mouth, holding it betweene her teeth, and of this horrible ſpectacle all ſorts of men can give teſtimony. Such and many more ſignes of Gods heavie wrath wee could write unto you of, but this ſhall ſuffice to give you a touch of the extremities wee are in. O how ſeaſonable are thoſe almes, which are ſent hither to keepe ſome of us alive! That faithfull God, who hath made ſo many promiſes to the liberall heart, will undoubtedly conſider thoſe, that conſider our poore Countrey-men in theſe extremities, and keep them from famiſhing.

Andreas Pilger, Paſtor.

Chap. I.

EVills of Puniſhment are Gods, the evil of Sinne is wholly ours. Whatſoever was the impulſive cauſe of his judgements, our wholſomeſt uſe is, to attribute them to our ſins: to greater ſins, greater Judgements, ſeeing God ſeemeth to obſerve a proportion to our deſerts; for, *Ezek.* 14. 21. the Prophet ſpeaks of foure ſore Judgements, that is, greater and more grievous than the reſt; famine, ſword, peſtilence, and the noiſome beaſt: with theſe hath he lately viſited ſome nations; eſpecially *Germany*, before a large, populous, fertile and flouriſhing Countrey. What ſhal we ſay? were their ſins greater than ours? No, but except we repent, what may we expect? the ſins of *Sodome* were pride, idleneſſe, and fulneſſe of bread; and ſuch they acknowledge theirs to have beene. I have ſeene their peaſants ſerved in plate, they ſlept

with downe-beds above and under them: their ſtoves kept them inſenſible of the winters cold; they ate no diſh of meat without his ſauce; their plenty of corne and wine, milk and honey, fiſh and fleſh, did equall that of any other nation whatſoever. A little labour brought them in much; delicacie of living made them incompaſſionate of others ſufferings; and ſecurity blinded them, that they could not ſee the ſtorm a comming. Thus, while they ſwim in fulneſſe and pleaſure, the Judgement that ſlept, was ſuddenly awaked, & the fire of war was kindled in all their coaſts; which blowne with the bellows of exaſperated ſpirits, hath depopulated their Land, and conſumed their dwellings to the ground: all lieth deſolate; the Vineyards are not dreſſed, nor the fields tilled, the ſword is every where drunke with bloud. Famine killeth more than the ſword; and the peſtilence, with other Epidemicke diſeaſes (wars attendants) devour their part alſo; and which is worſt of all, there is yet no end of theſe things.

the blazinge starre
1617
burgers and ministers releued in prison
a diuine tortured with a Catt.
Ch 3

CHAP. II.

Of Extortions and Exactions.

TO beginne with warre, which began the reſt, who knoweth not that this mercileſſe fury hath there plaied the tyrant, ever ſince that burning Beacon, the blazing Starre, gave them the alarme, 1617. which the beſt Aſtrologers expounded the ſword of *Germany*. A Prophecie I have ſeen, long ſince, written in a Booke, which belonged to a Canonick of *Nimegen*, and now in the Library at *Zutphen*; that a time ſhould come, when one *Frederike* ſhould be King, and then ſhould the Princes of *Germany*, the Nobility of *Bohemia*, and the people of both be oppreſſed, and warre rage, beyond all precedent of former ages: this, if ever, is now fulfilled in our daies. And if in ſuch diſorder it may be poſſible, I will obſerve this order in ſpeaking thereof: firſt, extortions and exactions: ſecondly tortures and torments: thirdly, rape and raviſhing: fourthly, robbery and pillaging: fifthly, bloud-ſhed and killing; ſixthly, burning and deſtroying. Theſe ſhall be the Scenes of this firſt act. Famine and peſtilence ſhall ſtand for the other acts of this direfull tragedy: in which, as no action or paſ-

sion was simple, or single, so can I not but with intermixtion, and confusion rehearse them.

For the first, as no Province or part of *Germany* can boast of her freedome from these miseries (though some have beene more free than others) so is there no Prince, nor State, which hath not suffered herein, no City, no Towne, almost no person. Every halfe yeeres, every moneths, yea, weekes relation, telleth us, of hundreds, thousands, millions of rix dollars, or guldens imposed, exacted, extorted by the Conquerours, or Spoylers, for the redemption of mens lives or liberties, goods or dwellings, &c. Strange and impossible oft-times have the ranlomes beene, with which they have taxed the Burgers, at the taking in of Townes.

And that they might have their wills in this kinde, they have called the Magistrates, and Burgers into the State-houses, threatened, imprisoned, or otherwise abused them, till they condescended.

At *Griphenberg*, they kept the Senators shut up in a chamber of the Common-hall, macerating and tormenting them so long with hunger and smoake, that some of them dyed.

We left in *Heydelberg*-Castle many Burgers to this their mercy; and divers reverend Ministers, who were imprisoned, and fed with bread and water, till the charity of the reformed Churches could relieve them.

Presently

Preſently after, they at *Frankendale* ſurrendring the towne, upon neceſſity, could not enjoy the articles granted them by the enemy; But were together with the grave Counſellours, and other Electorall Miniſters, forced to endure ſuch conditions, as were fitter for ſlaves and dogs, than men. Some were caſt into priſon, and there ſo handled, that many of them dyed through griefe and ſorrow. Others, though altogether exhauſted, redeemed themſelves with unreaſonable ranſomes. The goods of thoſe that were fled, were confiſcated: all the inhabitants, though they were willing to leave their houſes, with all their furniture, were detained in the City, and their deſtruction moſt cruelly plotted: after like manner have others beene dealt with, contrary to all oathes and promiſe, yea, contrary to the Lawes of Nations and common faith.

CHAP. III.

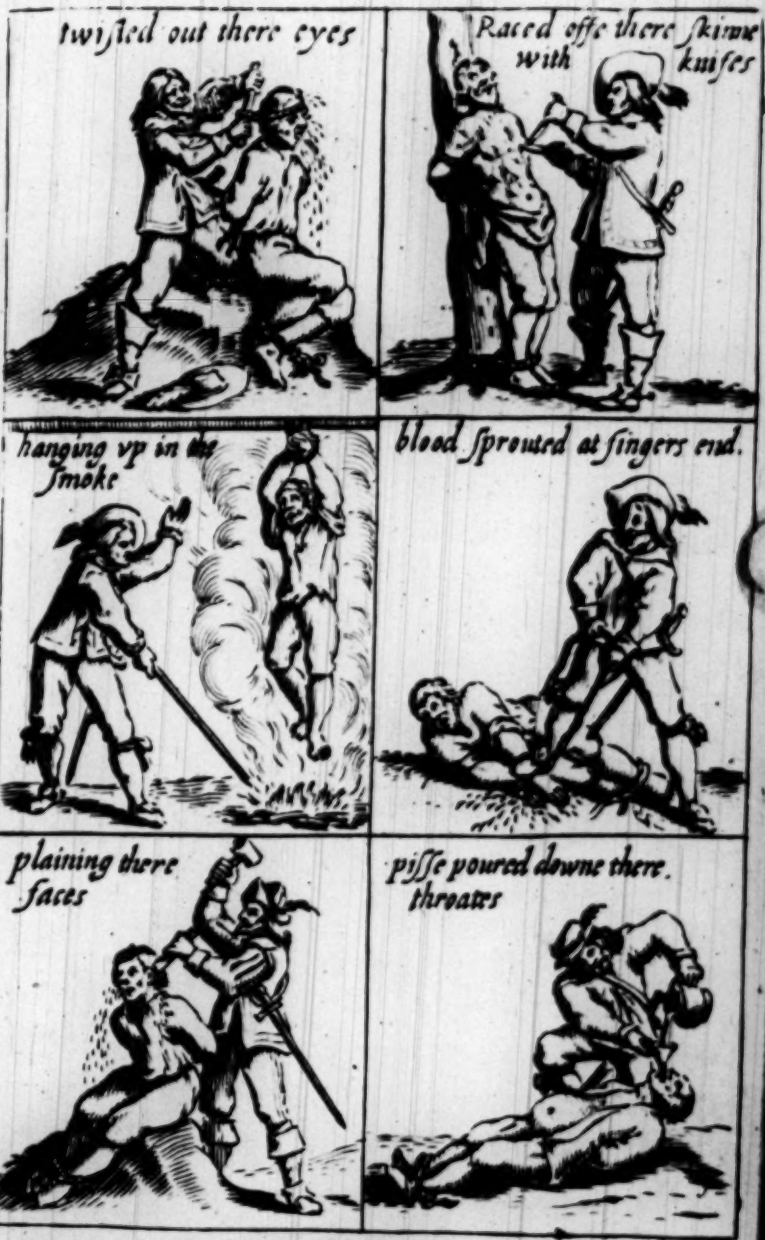
Of Tortures and Torments.

NOt to inſiſt on theſe, looke we upon the cruelties which the licentious Souldier hath exerciſed upon the perſons of the Inhabitants, without reſpect of age, ſex, dignity, calling, &c. And we ſhall rather thinke them Banditos or Renegado's, than men of armes, rather monſters than mankinde. Nor *Turks* nor *Infidells* have ſo behaved themſelves. Even Princes (ſacred Perſons) though they never bore armes, as the old Landgrave of *Heſſen*, and others: yea, ſome of the female Sex, as the old Dutcheſſe *Dowager* of *Wirtenberg*, have beene without any regard or pitty, taken priſoners, reviled, abuſed.

Aronibeus reporteth from the Letters of the D. of *Saxony*, that ſome of *Tillies* Souldiers cauſed his Subjects to be tortured, by halfe ſtrangling them, and preſſing their thumbes with wheeles.

His Souldiers, and thoſe of *Walſten*, exerciſed yet greater cruelties in *Pomeren*, and thereabouts. They made the people by force to eate their owne excrements: and if they would not, they thruſt them downe their throates, and ſo choaked ſome of them.

Whom


twisted out there eyes
Raced offe there skinne with knifes
hanging vp in the smoke
blood sprouted at fingers end.
plaining there faces
pisse poured downe there throates

Whom they thought to have hidden gold or other wealth, they have aſſayed, by exquiſite torments to make them confeſſe. Yea Princely perſonages have ſuffered like cruelty in this kind with meaner folke.

They have wound and tied about the heads of ſuch, ſtrong matches or cords, and twiſted the ſame till the blood came out of their eyes, eares, and noſes, yea, till their eyes ſtarted out of their heads.

They have put and tied burning matches betwixt their fingers, to their noſes, tongues, jawes, cheeks, breſts, legs, and ſecret parts.

Yea thoſe parts which nature hideth, they have either filled with powder, or hung ſatchels of powder on them, and ſo giving fire to the ſame, they have in horrible manner burſt their bellies, and killed them.

They have with bodkins pierced, yea with knives raced, and cut the skin and fleſh of many, as ſome Artificers deale with leather, or other ſtuffe of like nature.

They have drawn ſtrings and cords thorow the fleſhy parts of ſome, the muſcles of their thighs, legs, armes, &c. thorow their noſes, eares, lips, &c.

They have hung up ſome in the ſmoak, drying them with ſmall fires, refreſhing them ſometime with ſmall drinke, or cold water. For theſe being ſuch as were before overwhel-

me-

med with griefe, they tooke care leſt in their torment they ſhould die too ſoone.

Some they have put into hot Ovens, and ſo ſmothered or burned them. Some they roſted with ſtraw-fires.

Some have they ſtifled, ſtrangled or hanged. This was great favour to be ridde out of their paine.

To many they have bound ſo hard both hands and feete, that the blood hath ſprouted out at the ends of their fingers and toes.

Of ſome they have tied both hands and feet backward together, and ſtopped their mouthes with clouts to hinder them from praying.

Some have they hanged up, with ropes faſtned to their privie parts, and hearing their roaring cries, have ſtriven to out-roare and drowne their cries as in ſport.

And yet more deteſtable, where they have found poore weake Creatures troubled with ruptures or burſtenneſſe, they have enlarged the ſame by villanous meanes, filled them with gunpowder, and blowne them up as a Mine, by giving fire thereunto.

Many have they truſſed up on high, hanging on their feet ſtones and weights to ſtretch out their bodies.

With Jizels or like Inſtruments they have gone about to plaine the faces of ſome, pretending that they would make it equall & ſmooth.

Some

Some Houſholders have they openly gelded, in the preſence of their wives and children.

The mouthes of ſome have they opened with gags, and then poured downe their throats, water, ſtinking puddle, filthy liquids, and piſſe it ſelfe, ſaying, This is a *Swediſh* draught. So growing ſicke, and their bellies ſwelling like a Tun, they have dyed by leyſure with the greater torment.

Downe the throates of others, they have thruſt a knotted clout, and then with a ſtring pulled it up againe, to pull the bowells out of their place, or ſhew themſelves exquiſite in ſuch divelliſh devices. And by theſe torments, they have made ſome deafe, or dumbe, others blind, others lame and miſerable creples, if they killed them not.

If an Huſband did intreat for the Wife, or the Wife for the Huſband, then tooke they the interceſſour, and he was tortured by them, after the ſame manner before the others eyes.

And (which is almoſt beyond all credit) when theſe poore priſoners or patients, were ſuffering or dying under their hands, and crying to God in their anguiſh, theſe helliſh executioners would command or force them to pray unto the Divell, or call upon him.

Infinite and unſpeakeable are the cruelties, which have this laſt yeere beene exerciſed by the furious Souldiers on all ſides.

And

And ſome devills among them did proceed ſo farre, that they conſulted and deviſed new and exquiſite tortures, which they exerciſed upon innocent perſons. They tooke a Divine, (ſome write a Canon in thoſe parts, and a reverend old man) ſtripped him, bound him along upon his backe on a Table, and a ſtrong bigge Cat upon his naked belly. They beat and pricked the Cat to make her fixe her teeth & claws in the poore mans belly. So the Cat & the man, partly through famin, partly through pain and anguiſh, both breathed their laſt.

Some of their deſpicable and infamous ruytery called Croats or Crabats, have laboured much to teach their horſes not only to kil men, but to eate humane and Chriſtians fleſh, and have conſulted how to find out torments more rare, cruell, and exquiſite than ever. What ſhall we ſay to theſe devils? *Phalaris*, *Nero*, *Dionyſius*, all other tyrants and tyrannies, are incomparable to theſe new ſtratagematiſts and engineers. *Caucaſus* bred them, tygers fed them, hel taught them, and thither I remit them.

CHAP.

Violence in Churches

A maide Rauiſched
and after quartерd

Maides leapinge into Riuers.

CHAP. IIII.

Of Rape and Raviſhing.

Have ſaid much of the former Particular, and yet but little. I will now ſpeake little of this enſuing abomination, and (I feare) too much. Rapes and Raviſhing ſcarce to be ſpoken or heard of, have they committed, beyond all humane modeſty. Mayds and Matrons, Widdowes and Wives, without diſtinction have they violated and forced, and that in the preſence of their Parents, Huſbands, Neighbours, &c. Women with child in child-bed, &c. no pen can write it, no faith believe it. No Chappell Church or place conſecrated hath beene free from the filthieſt of pollutions, or moſt ſacrilegious barbariſmes. The very Hoſpitalls and Bedlame-houſes have not beene ſpared: their divelliſh madneſſe hath there found ſubjects for their purpoſe.

In *Heſſen*-land, a poore leane Bedlam woman, that had beene kept in chaines above twenty yeeres, was by theſe hell-hounds let looſe. About her they brought divers others, like her ſelfe, ſome madde, ſome dumbe, all

wretched. They tyed their coates about their eares, and so used them as I shame to expresse.

In *Pomeren* they tooke the faireſt daughters of the Country-dwellers, and raviſhed them in the ſight of their parents, making them and their friends to ſing Pſalmes before them all the while.

In *Italy*, I have heard ſome with teares recite the villanies perpetrated by the Germane troopes of *Gallas* and *Altringer*, when they beſieged *Mantua*. Among the reſt, a beautiful maid was by her Parents hid in the dung-hill. But they found her out, had their pleaſures of her, then cut her in pieces, hung her quarters up in the Church, and bid her friends pray to the Saints for her ſuccour.

The Sperenrentriſh horſe-men (as we came through *Brunſwick*-land) tooke by force a young maide ten yeeres old, and carryed her into a wood to raviſh her. The mother with upreard hands came running after our Coach, crying out to my Colonell, who was here a ſtranger without command, and could not relieve her: then ſaw wee the two horſe-men come out of the wood, where they had left the poore child dead or alive I know not.

Vertuous and chaſte women have they offered to kill, or throwne their children into the fire, to make them yeeld.

They have not ſpared the very Nunnes in the

the Cloyſters, but after they have entred by force, broken open their Trunkes and Coffers, and taken their goods, they have likewiſe raviſhed them, and killed ſome of them.

I know the Generall, a troope of whoſe horſe having done the like, hee commanded them all to be hanged, but becauſe they were not all alike guilty, they caſt lots for their lives, and every tenth man dyed.

Some have leaped into rivers, into wells, or killed themſelves becauſe they would not be ſubject to the filthy luſts of theſe hell-borne furies.

Not onely ſicke and weake maids, and women have beene violated till they dyed, but theſe wretches have committed like filthineſſe with the dead bodies.

Chap. V.

Of Robbing and Pillaging.

NO man can now paſſe any where in *Dutch*-land; but hee is robbed, ſtripped, perhaps killed. The Merchants of *Frankford*, *Nurenberg* *Lipzig*, *Hamburg*, &c. have had too wofull experience hereof: witneſſe of Infinite this one inſtance. The Merchants of *Baſil*, returning from the Mart at *Strasburg*, and other Faires, to goe to *Shoffehauſen*, were ſet upon by the Imperialiſts in their lodging, and though they offered to prove themſelves Merchants, and craved their lives upon their knees, yet they killed ten of them, ſaying, they muſt dye, becauſe they were heretickes. The reſt leaving their goods and garments behind, eſcaped by flight ſtarke naked in the night.

The very Convoyes which waite on thoſe that travell to guard them are often-times as bad, almoſt, as a ſtrange enemy. They watch all occaſions to take from them what they have, their money and goods, their horſes as they goe to watering, or out of the ſtables in the night, ſpoyle their Wagons when they make a ſtand, rifle and ſtrip the meaneſt perſons, if they ſtraggle from the company, and ſo they ſerved

Marchants Robed and slaine
persons priuelegdd Rifled
Diuines cutt in peaces

ved us all the way from *Heidelberg* to *Heſſenland* that we knew not which was worſe, our friend with us, or our enemy behind us.

Two Counteſſes of great nobility, with their faire daughters and followers in diſtreſſe, were entertained by us in the caſtle of *Heydelberg*, the one immediately before, the other in the time of the ſiege. When our hope of ſubſiſting began to faile, they went away with the enemies paſport. Notwithſtanding which they were by them robbed and rifled in their coaches of all they had, not ſparing the very garments that covered them.

The priviledged perſons of royall Embaſſadours, their goods and followers, cannot be ſecured from them, witnes this yeare the ſhamefull plundering of the Daniſh Embaſſadour.

What quarter they give to the traveller, the like or worſe they afford the inhabitants, if they eſcape with their lives, this is all, and well too: when the time hath beene that one might have travelled ſafe from the one end of *Germany* to the other with a white rod in his hand and an hundred pound in his purſe.

Indeed they robbe one another every where out of their quarter: nor are they fellow ſouldiers any longer, when they have opportunity to play the theeves. Nor God nor devil do they acknowledge, but when they ſweare, nor is any thing ſo vile but they will doe it.

Chap. VI.

Of Bloodshed and killing.

AS for killing, this is the least of all the rest. Death puts an end to all miseries; onely they that survive are oft-times the worse for want of them that are dead. To report the blood-shed of this warre, would be incredible: *Alsted* saith, that before the King of *Swedens* comming, it had consumed no lesse than 100000. If this be true, what hath it done since? How many millions have miserably perished? They have sometimes killed one another; and among other precedents this is not least remarkable, that *Gourdon* and *Lesley* Scotch Colonells, with Colonell *Butler* the Irish man, who killed *Walstein*, the Count of *Tirskie*, and other Imperiall officers then ready to revolt to the Swedish party, are now, this yeere after the same manner, hurt, or killed themselves (as is written) by *Gallas* his followers, upon a dispute about that former businesse; a Document for all strangers, to take heede, how they collogue with those monsters, in such dangerous actions, who love the Treason, but hate the Traytor.

The cruelty of the Souldier towards the inhabitants of those Countries, is inexpressible.

Per-

Croats eate Children

Noses & eares Cut of to make hatbandes

Persons secular and sacred, have had the same measure. Neere *Fryburg*, *Holck* his souldiers cut in pieces a reverend Minister, a man of rare learning and piety. The dogs would not lick his bloud, nor touch his flesh. So his friends buried his mangled members.

At *Landshood* in *Bavier*, the souldiers entring by force, killed not only all they found in arms, but the innocent inhabitants, yea, the very Priests kneeling at the Altars; and divers other instances of like nature I could produce.

Now what may the poore peasant and countrey-dwellers expect? to kill them if they resist or refuse them any thing, is but ordinary in this warre: among the Imperialists is a base sort of rascally horse-men which serve them, and are called Croats. The tenth part of them are not of that Countrey: for they are a miscellany of all strange nations, without God, without religion, and have only the outsides of men, and scarse that too. They make no conscience of murthering men or women, old or young, yea, the very innocent babes; and like the beasts among whom they are bred, doe sometimes eat them, when other food might be found: the poore people have by these beene every where knocked downe in the fields and wayes, slaughtered, stabbed, tortured barbarously.

Their fellow souldiers are not much behind them

them having ſome where left ſuch foot-ſteps of their cruelty, that there ſcarce remaine living, to relate the ſufferings of the dead. I have ſeen them beat out the braines of poore old decrepid women, as in ſport, and commit other outrages of like nature, which my brevity wil not permit me to relate.

It is now growne ſo uſuall with the poore people to ſee one ſlaine before anothers face, that (as though there were no relation, no affection of neighbourhood, kindred or friendſhip among them) none compaſſionateth almoſt, none cryeth out, oh my father, or oh my brother!

As for quarter (that is mercy, and the ſaving of the lives of the vanquiſhed, when they beg it on their knees) the vanquiſhers have been oft times inhumane. The Croats, till of late, never gave any quarter, but killed whatſoever enemy they had at their mercy. The like did the Curlins (the regiment of hell) receive pay of them of *Gaunt* and *Bruges*, to bring the noſe and ears of their enemies away to their Maſters.

Tilly, after the defeate of the Duke of *Brunſwicke* at *Heuxt* on the Maine, drew out of that town threeſcore poor ſouldiers, & cauſed them all to bee killed in the cold blood, before the gate, ſaying, that he ſacrificed them to Count *Mansfield* their maſter. I could weary my reader with theſe examples. But I forbeare.

CHAP.

2000. villages burnt in Bauaria

No tillage nor Breeding
Cattell
But dringe all in to Cities

CHAP. VII.

Of Burning and Deſtroying.

FOr burning, pulling down and ruining of Churches, Cities, Villages, the like hath not been heard. The Swediſh army burned above 2000 Villages in *Bavaria*, in revenge of the *Palatine* cauſe: But their enemies ſpare neither foes nor friends. What goodly houſes of the Nobility and Gentry ſhall you, there, ſee fallen down, or ſo defaced, as is ſcarce reparable without building new? From what quarter ſoever the army riſeth, they will bee ſure to leave ſome dwellings in the aſhes, ſome in the ſmoake. To that paſſe it is now come, that every one that is a man, betaketh himſelfe to arms. There is now no other aboad, but ſome campe, no other plow to follow, no other imployment but the warre, for he that is not an actor with the reſt, muſt needes bee a ſufferer among the miſerable patients. No tilling of the land, no breeding of cattell; for if they ſhould, the next yeare the ſouldiers devoure it. Better to ſit ſtill, than to labour, and let others reape the profits. Hence an univerſall deſolation.

Part of the people ſwarme as baniſhed in ſtrange countries, as I have obſerved in *Swiſſe*, at *Lanſan*,

Lauſan, *Berne*, *Baſil*, &c. in *France*, in *Italy*, eſpecially the *Venetian* territories. From *Baſil* to *Straſburg*, from *Strasburg* to *Heydelberg*, from thence to *Marpurg*, I ſcarſe ſaw a man in the fields, or Villages. Little better ſhall a man finde it that travelleth from the Kingdome of *France* to the middle of *Bohemia*, from the Alps above *Auſpurg* to the Baltique ſea, a ſquare of land little leſſe than thrice all Great Britaine. Onely here and there, as the land hath reſt, the dwellers return. But alas, the farre greater part are extinguiſhed by war, miſery, or length of time.

CHAP.

Eateing dead horses

Fowles eate the dead

CHAP. VIII.

Of Famine.

FAmine commeth next in place, a thing ſo grievous, that *David* preferred the peſtilence in his choicy. To ſee men ſlaine by the ſword, or die of contagious diſeaſes, is not yet ſo grievous, as to ſee them dye of famine, or kill to eate one another. In *Samaria* beſieged by *Benhadad* King of *Syria*, the famine was ſo great, that an Aſſes head was ſold for 80. pieces of ſilver, & the fourth part of a cab of Doves dung for 50. pieces of ſilver. Two women covenanted to eate their children ſucceſſively: and when they had boyled and eaten the one, the other woman hid hers. In the ſiege of *Ieruſalem*, Mice, Rats, and Hides were good meat, and women did dreſſe and eate their owne children, the ſmell whereof drew others that were hunger-ſtarv'd to come to ſhare with them. But that Cities not beſiged, and a Country naturally fertile, ſhould be ſo ruined, as not to be able, for ſo long a time to afford bread to a poore remnant of people, but that they muſt be faine to eate carrion, yea, dead men, yea, one another living: this is pittifull, this is unheard of.

Had I not beene provided of *Viaticum*, at my

comming out of *Suiſſe* famine had arreſted me in *Germany*, for there was not any where meate for money. The *Italians* and *Spaniards*, which had beene at the skirmiſh at *Nortlingen*, and without armes, wandred among the Duke of *Lorrane's* troopes at *Nyburg* and *Briſac*, were ſo blacke and feeble through hunger, that had I not given them part of my proviſion, I thinke they had rent me in pieces, and eaten mee.

Travelling from *Neuſtadt* towards *Frankendale* in a ſnowie day, I met, unexpected, the army of *Duke Bernard*, whoſe ſtraggling fore-runners, came riding up to me by couples, and when I looked for a worſe errand, asked onely for bread, which my guide gave them, ſo long as we had any.

From thence to *Manheime* and *Heydleberg*, many dead men lay ſtrewed on the way, eſpecially on the fire places, which periſhed through cold and want.

Before wee were beſieged laſt time in *Heydleberg* Caſtle, ſome of my patients, almoſt recovered of their diſeaſes, ſent mee word, they were dying of famine, as indeed they did, except our canon helped to ſhorten their miſeries. For being immediately ſhut up, we ſhot into the towne night and day, almoſt unneſſarily.

Our ſouldiers at the firſt, killed more horſes on a day, than they could eate, leſt they ſhould famiſh for want of hay, and thoſe they threw out of the Caſtle, downe the rocke, which the enemy

in

in the night drew into the towne, (though ſome in ſo doing were ſlaine by our ſhot) and ſo they eat our horſe-fleſh, alſo our Serjeant Major ſallied with 50. men upon the enemy being 300. entrenched on the hil on the Eaſt ſide of the caſtle, and beate them out of their workes. Many were ſlaine, ſome broke their necks downe the rocks: but which equallized the victory, the valiant Major was ſhot dead. Our ſouldiers being Maſters of the trench, fell to ranſacke the enemies knapſackes, which they had left behinde them. But there was nothing in them, ſave our horſe-fleſh, which every day grew ſcarſer with us: ſo that now we killed the horſes which ſtood faſting and ſleeping on the dung-hill, not out of compaſſion, but neceſſity. Another Serjeant Major had two very faire horſes ſhut up. our ſouldiers tooke the one and ate him, he thinking to make ſure the other, ſtapled him to the wall with a ſtrong chaine and a padlocke, but they eſpying their opportunity, cut off the horſes necke, left the head in the chaine, and carried away the body and ate it.

At length, dogs and carrion came into requeſt, we could ſmell our meate afarre off, and on the Table it was yet more loathſome, the taſte did anſwer the ſmell, yet, we ate it ſavourly, but our bread at laſt failing, we yeelded to neceſſity.

CHAP. X.

Of Famine.

THe armies now everywhere overranne the Countrey, devoured both Corne & catel: ſo they that had goods left, offered to give all for a little bellytimber. But not ſo obtaining it they were faine to lie upon the ſtreets and high waies, (a thing not uſuall with them) and to crave for Gods ſake wherewith to refreſh their dying ſoules. But no ſooner had they ſwallowed what was given them, but they fell downe and di-d.

Memorable is that ſtory which *Reinmannus* recordeth of the Famine in *Alſatia* the laſt yeere, which is at this preſent yet worſe. *Valentine* of *Engelin* a citizen of *Rufacke*, with the dead-burier, delivered unto the Magiſtrate upon their oathes, that *Anne* the daughter of *Iohn Ebſtein* confeſſed unto them, that ſhe came from *Colmar*, where ſhee had waited many daies before the hangmans doore in hope to get a piece of horſefleſh to ſatifie her hunger. But not prevailing, ſhee was now come to *Rufack* entreating them, that if there was the body of any young man or woman unburied, that they would give it her to eate to preſerve her life.

And

Carion Sould in the Market as
Doggos & Rattes

Fyteinge for Carion

And that two women and a boy did after the ſame manner ſpeak unto them, telling them that they had for a long time lived of dead mens fleſh, which being publiſhed, the Cloyſter of the Church-yard of S. *Nicholas*, where the dead bodies were kept, was locked up.

Laſtly, that foure young maydes had cut in pieces the dead bodie of another young maid of eleven yeares of age, and eaten every one their part.

At this day it is yet worſe. Many that ſurvived the loſſe of all they had, have for a long time ſuſtained themſelves with roots, acornes, greene fruits, graſſe, thiſtles, and weeds, that beaſts would not have eaten, whereof they grew enraged and dyed.

The famiſhed have beene ſo faint, that they have not had ſtrength to bury one another, in ſo much, that the dead have beene eaten up of Dogs, Foxes and Wolves, and ſome have run mad for hunger.

In ſome Cities, the inhabitans by this famine, have beene conſtrained to kill all unedible cattell, without any difference, and to ſell them publikely: as Dogs, Cats, Rats, Mice &c.

A woman at *Hanaw*, that had ſold Dogs-fleſh ordinarily to the ſouldiers, was in the ſtreetes aſſaulted by Dogs, all her garments torne off her backe, that ſhee was faine to ſit downe on the ground to hide her ſhame. And had ſhe not

beene

beene reſcued, ſhee had beene rent in pieces by the Dogs.

Where any man had a beaſt left that he carefully kept for his neceſſity, ſome or other of his acquaintance, if he could come by it, would kill and eate it.

They have ſnatched one from another the very ſtinking carrion, which had lien ſixe or ſeven weekes dead and full of maggots: yea and have fought and beaten one another to get a morſell thereof, as lately happened at *Dubach* by *Bachrack*.

It hath moved the great ones and governours of theſe quarters unto compaſſion to ſee their people in ſuch extreame want. In ſo much that the noble Earle of *Falkenſtein* ſeeing his Subjects crave ſuſtenance of him, commanded his man to give them his hounds to ſatisfie their hunger, which they preſently killed and ate.

CHAP.

3 women killinge and after eatinge each other

Wemen Eate there owne Children

Chap. X.

Of Famine.

AS the ſickneſſe ſpreadeth by the contagion of infected bodies, ſo hath this famine encreaſed by the neglect of Providence in the diſabled and famiſhed. When no more food was to be got, they were inraged like beaſts one againſt another, and gathering together by troopes, have watched for one another upon the high waies, and ſo murthered, dreſſed, and eaten one another. Thenceforth no man could paſſe ſafe on the way, or in the ſtreets, except well armed, or travelling with a convoy. And ſome of them have beene taken and ſeverely puniſhed by Juſtice, nevertheleſſe they haue ſecretly lurked here and there, and ſet upon the paſſengers, as by many inſtances, I could ſhew.

It is not good to be alone; for where there is company, the one will helpe the other in diſtreſſe. The hardneſſe of theſe times being obſerved, or rather felt, three maidens at *Odenheim*

in

in *Dirmbſtein* by *Wormes* agreed to dwell together, and to partake of ſweet and ſower all alike. But the proverbe is true, that neceſſity hath no law, and hunger is a ſharpe Thorne. So preſſed they were with extreame famine, that they ſought one anothers lives to ſave their owne. Two of them conſpired together to take away the life of the third, by ſtrangling her in bed or otherwiſe treacherouſly to kill her, and after to dreſſe and eate her up. All which they did accordingly. Then the ſecond reſolved to ſtrangle her companion, and cut off her head, which when ſhee had done, her heart being hardened, ſhe went to a village called *Ridiſheim* to a woman of her acquaintance, called *Margaret*, whoſe husband was a Farmer, and kept himſelfe a way for a time in the towne of *Leyningen*. The woman entertained her kindly, rejoycing that ſhee came yet once to ſee her. But in the night, lying by the ſaid woman, ſhe cut off her head, bound the dead body upon a board and brought it to *Piedeſſen*, where ſhe dwelt and drew it into her houſe. The ſharpeneſſe of hunger pricking her, ſhe had not the patience to cut the body in pieces, but did cut off the head and both the hands onely, and waſhed and dreſſed them. The huſband comming home miſſed his wife, and enquired for her at the neighbours, who told him that ſuch a maide was ſeene with his wife. He went to her houſe, knocked at the doore and aſked

ked her, if ſhe had not ſeene his Wife. She anſwered him no. But ſuch deeds of cruelty are hard to be concealed. Murther will out, they ſay, or the very Bruits will diſcover it. Hee goes into her houſe, caſteth his eyes round about, pryeth into every corner: at length hee eſpieth an hand to ſticke out of the pot, which hung upon the fire. Hereupon, as overcome with griefe, hee rageth and raileth againſt the murthereſſe, threateneth her with ſharpe words, ſo that ſhe preſently confeſſed and revealed it.

Then went he to the Juſtice, and complained. So ſhee was brought to *Slitzey* with three Muſketires. They made her hold the ſodden hand in her hand, while ſhe was examined: and ſo ſhe had her ſentence from the Imperiall officers, *Burgrave Philip* of *Waldecke*, and all the Lords of Juſtice, before the judgement-ſeat. They deliberated long about her puniſhment, whether ſhe ſhoule die or no, becauſe ſome were of opinion, that ſhe did it not as a rationall Creature, but as a brute, becauſe the appetite of food is common to us with beaſts. But wickedneſſe, though neceſſitated, may not ever goe free. Some muſt be made an example for the terrour of others. She was led to the common place of juſtice, her head cut off, and her body bound upon a wheele, there to remaine as a ſpectacle.

I cannot but write with teares what followeth.

—Quis talia fando
Myrmidonum, Dolopumve aut duri miles Vlyſſis
Temperet à lachrymis?—

What Myrmidon, what Dolop, who that beares
Armes under harſh *Vlyſſes*, but his teares
Muſt flow at this relation?

No man ever hated his owne fleſh. But ſuch are the children of our bodies. It is even againſt nature to deſtroy ſuch fruite. Yet the ſharpneſſe of hunger brought this to paſſe. Oh! what is that neceſſity which makes us breake ſtone walls, forget the neereſt and deareſt relations, vanquiſh our naturall and moſt powerfull paſſions, and deſtroy that which we ſo dearely loved, ſo carefully cheriſhed! At *Oterburg* in the Palatinate, a widow women dwelling by the churchyard (her name well knowne) had a daughter of nine or ten yeares old. This child with hunger was growne ſo faint, that upon a time, with ſorrowfull eyes, ſhe ſtedfaſtly looked upon her mother and ſaid, ſweete mother, I would willingly die, ſo I were rid of my paine. Oh! would you make an end of mee, then ſhould I goe from whence I came, or if I did kill you, you would be rid of your paine. The mother looking upon her againe, ſighing ſaid, and what wouldeſt thou do with me? The child anſwered, very ſadly, I then would eat you, for they ſay that mans fleſh is very ſweet. The mother fell a weeping, and broken with her owne thoughts, as a ſhip toſſed and beaten

beaten between two rocks, deſperate neceſſity & her motherly affection, catcheth at her head, untyeth her haire-lace, twiſteth it about the necke of this innocent lambe, and ſo ſtrangleth her; when it was dead, ſhee having nor knife nor hatchet to cut it in pieces, took a ſpade, and therewith hewed it into gobbets, & ſo dreſſing the head, and part of the body devoured it. Some part thereof ſhee ſold to her neighbours for foure ſtivers the pound.

Her childe being long miſſed, her acquaintance asked her where it was, and how ſhe came by that fleſh. She anſwered it was hogs-fleſh, which ſhe had got of the ſouldiers, who paſſed that way. But perceiving the truth would come out, ſhe at laſt confeſſed it. Whereupon ſhe was complained of to the juſtice at *Keyſars Lauteren*, and put in priſon by *Jonker van Effren*, and adjudged to an halfe pound of bread, and a kanne of water a day, ſo to expect her ſentence. But being ſent for out of priſon, and examined by the Lords, ſhe told them ſhe was happy that ſhe was in priſon, and would be glad to lie there all her life, to ſlake her hunger and refreſh her ſelfe with ſuch food, her pricking paine being thereby abated. This ſo moved the Lords to pitty, that they freed her from priſon, and let her goe as innocent.

I cannot but record another ſtory of like nature, of the woman of *Horne-bach*, where was

ſometime the Princely ſchoole of *Zwybruck*, having lately lyen in childbed and wanting milke to nouriſh her babe, ſhe kiſſed and embraced it with moyſt teares, and after a long diſcourſe killed it with a knife. Afterwards ſhe dreſſed and ate it. When it began to be knowne, ſhe was examined before the Juſtices. The Lords asked her, wherefore ſhe killed her childe. She made anſwere that mighty and intollerable hunger had made her ſo to doe, and that it was her owne fruite, of which ſhee might better make uſe, than of any other. Nevertheleſſe ſhe was condemned to die, and accordingly executed.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

Of Famine.

Am now weary of theſe lamentable relations. Yet more miſerable (if more miſerable can be) have enſued. They have traced the dead bodies to the place of their buriall, digged them out of their graves, dreſſed and eaten them. So that in divers places (at *Wormes* eſpecially) they have beene faine to ſet watch at the Church-yards; and over the graves to keepe the dead from being ſtolne and eaten.

In *Saxony* at this preſent the caſe is ſo miſerable in this kinde, that no pen can expreſſe it. The Saxon-Auſtrian Army (were they not beaten) muſt retreite through hunger, having famiſhed both the inhabitants and themſelves.

After the ſame manner it is upon the Rhine, and many other parts, where the Armies are or have lately beene.

To that extremity it is come, that ſome conſtrained by hunger, have taken poyſon to advance death.

Dead Corpes digd out of there Graues to Eate

Some take poyson to hastē death

In a word, the very wild beaſts in the woods doe ſtarve for want of prey.

My Lord the Earle of *Arundel* travelling homewards, towards *Frankefort* on the *Maine*, a Boore or peaſant of the countrey, being their guide, and having his legs bare, a Fox purſued him, among my Lords followers, and would not forbeare ſnatching and biting at his bare heeles, (ſuch was his hunger) till they gave him a blow in the necke, and ſo tooke him alive. His eyes were ſunke, his bones ſtucke out, and hee was ſo extreme leane, that his ſides almoſt met together. They carried him alive with them in the coach, and after a few daies he died.

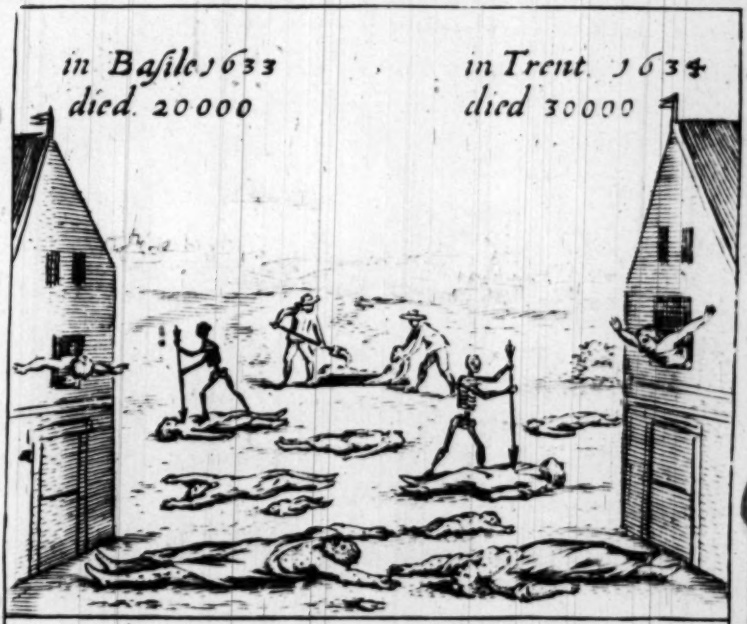
An Engliſh gentleman arrived here the other day, who travelling from *Vlmes* to *Nurenburg*, & ſo through *Germany* for *England*, with ſuch companions as guided him by-waies for eſcaping of the ſouldiers, reporteth that Wolves, Foxes and other wild beaſts lie dead for want of food, and that in ſome places men live only upon robbery and ſpoile of ſtrangers, or one another; Theevery being become a trade.

Chap. XII.

Of ſickneſſe and diſeaſes.

DIſeaſes are more feared as they are more dangerous. Great diſeaſes for their difficulty of cure, acute or ſharpe diſeaſes, becauſe when they kill they diſpatch ſuddenly. But Epidemick and contagigous maladies have yet ſomething more, beſides their greatneſſe, beſides their acuteneſſe to make them terrible. And that is this, that they deprive a man of the comfort of his acquaintance, neighbours, friends, kinsfolkes, &c. Adde hereunto that for theſe wee ſeldome know any ſpecificall remedy, for the peſtilence I am ſure there is none, as being Gods immediate judgement, though oft times hee uſeth the miniſtery of ſecondary cauſes, for the executing of his further pleaſure herein, I have made tryall of all ſorts of Antidotes, vegetable, minerall, animall, and that according to rationall method, yet am I almoſt as farre from the cure, as ever. Theſe diſeaſes are oft times Warres concomitants or effects. Rare it is for a great Army

to



Generall Holcke offred 600 Rixdollers for a diuin to comforte him.

to ſtay long in a place, and not to leave ſome infection behinde. Beyond the Dona, after the *Swedens* departure from thence with their Armies, diſeaſes unheard of, and the Peſt withall ſwept away a world of people. The like happened ſhortly after, about *Nurenberg* in the high Palatinate, and on the frontiers of *Boheme*.

Before Maſtreicht, after the Towne was taken, our quarters had contracted infectious ſickneſſes: whereof I my ſelfe had my ſhare, being left ſicke in the Towne of a purple Feaver. But the yeere following both the Towne and Countrey were grievouſly afflicted, with Feavers, Fluxes, and the Plague above all.

The ſame yeere *Elſas* or *Alſatia* and the lower Palatinate, where the Armies of the Duke of *Lorraine* and the Rhinegrave had lodged, did ſuffer miſerably in this kinde.

The Army of the Prince of *Orange* having taken *Rhineberg*, and marching towards *Maſtriche* and *Liege*, left ſuch infection in great *Brahant*, about *Firken*-ward, that the inhabitants the yeere after were afraid of their owne dwellings.

About the ſame time, Generall *Holck* being ſent by *Wolſtein*, with 6000. to invade *Saxony*, ſacked the City of *Leipzick*, and committed as great outrages as *Tillies* Army had done before.

Bu

But ſuch a peſtilence overtooke both him and his, that moſt of his ſouldiers dyed like ſheepe of the rot. And being infected himſelfe, hee offered 600 Rixdollers for a Miniſter of the Goſpell to inſtruct and comfort him. But both himſelfe and his Souldiers had ſo behaved themſelves, that no Miniſter was to be found. In the meane all his friends & ſervants forſook him, except his Concubine, who ſtayed with him to the laſt. He had beene both of the Religion and the Proteſtants party, but revolted from both. So guilty of his owne perfidiouſnes, and the execrable murders and rapines that he had cauſed, hee dyed deſpairing utterly of all future bliſſe. At length came a Miniſter, but *Holcke* was dead before.

The City of *Baſile* that winter loſt above 20000. of the plague. They of the City of *Trent*, their neighbours rejoyced at their ſufferings, as being their enemies in religion. But it fell out with them, as with *Edom* in *Obadiah*, *v.* 15. that mocked *Jacob* in his diſtreſſe. The winter following, 1634. the peſtilence ſo raged among the Tridentines, that wee were forbidden to come that way, for the ſicke and ſound were mixed together, and that City (not great) buried above 30000.

Beſieged in the Caſtle of *Heidleberg*, I viſited every day divers ſicke of the plague, and like diſeaſes. But in neither of theſe two great plagues

plagues in *London*, nor in any other, that I have beene in, did I ever finde the cauſe ſo virulent, the ſymptomes ſo incorrigible, the diſeaſe ſo incurable. Some dyed raging, others were killed with their carbuncles, when the venome ſeemed to be expelled from the inward parts, others were ſwollen and diſcoloured, as though they had taken poyſon, and ſome that dyed were ſo ſpotted, as I never ſaw the like. If any ſouldier were but ſleightly wounded, preſently it became a maligne ulcer, though all good inward and outward meanes, were uſed. If the infection got into a kindred, it killed parents, children, and almoſt all the blood, that were preſent. Whence I perſwade my ſelfe, that *Hippocrates* his θεῖον, that is, the divine hand and finger of God was more conſpicuous in this, than in any other viſitation I had ſeene, though I doubt not but our foode with the aire might alſo helpe to impoyſon our bodies extraordinarily.

Toward the end of the ſiege, wee had made an hoſpitall in the roofe of the houſe. But packing out of the Caſtle, wee left there our ſicke, ſome dying, ſome crying out at the windowes, not to be left to their ſickneſſe, famine, and death, and which was worſe than the enemy, of whom how they were uſed wee may imagine.

In the Towne they were much viſited before

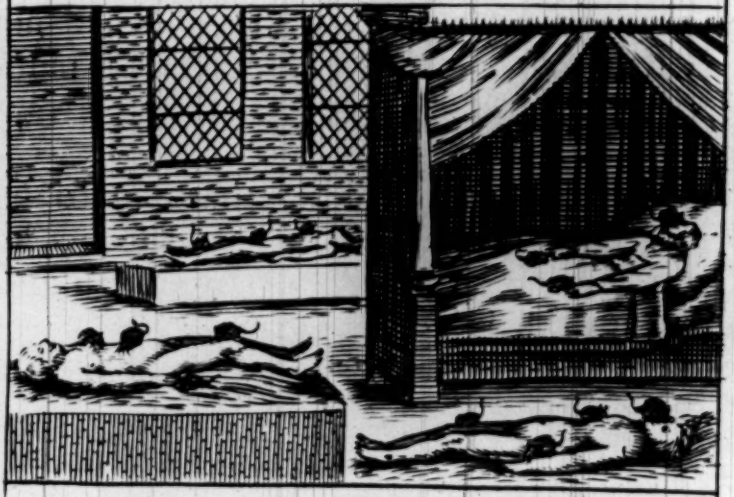
we were ſhut up: which could not but be augmented by the multitudes of the enemy.

In the ſiege of *Hanaw* were buried, (moſt of the plague) above 22000 people, and had not God ſent that ſickneſſe to diminiſh their numbers, they had yeelded the towne through want of victuals.

In the ſame ſiege, Souldiers that went to the guard ſeeing and well, came off ſtrucken ſtarke blinde thirty at a time. Afterwards the diſeaſe falling into their legges, the moſt of them recovered.

CHAP.

In Bauier men not left to bury the dead, but Rattes, and mice, devoured there carcasses.



Haue pittey vpon me, haue pittey vpon me, o ycc my frends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me.

CHAP. XIII.

Of Sickeneſſe and Diſeaſes.

THe yeere 1635, almoſt whole *Germany* felt this puniſhment, in moſt grievous wiſe. In *Swaben* the Countrey of *Tyroll*, all along the *Reine*, and the Maine, it was ſo furiouſly hot, that all places were alike ſafe. The King of *Hungary* was faine to diſſolve his Court, and ſend them away into divers Cities, for their ſafer abode.

In *Swaben* the inhabitants of *Memingen*, *Campden*, and *Iſnen* were utterly conſumed, and none left. In the Countrey thereabout, in which were more than thirty thouſand men heretofore, were not foure hundred ſoules to be found.

In the confines of *Bavier* the living were nothing neere able to bury the dead. But Rats and Mice devoured their carcaſſes, moſt horrible to behold.

The low Countries ſmarted ſore alſo. The Univerſitie of *Leyden* buried thirty thouſand. The Countrey Villages and the Hague, where

(where I was ſhut up my ſelfe) were miſerably afflicted. The Infant Cardinall was forced to remove from *Brnxels* and *Antwerp*, the ſickneſſe did ſo increaſe in thoſe places.

Nimegen, *Emericke*, *Rees*, *Guelders*, with other places neere, were not onely viſited therewith (wherof the Marqueſſe of *Aytona*, the Spaniſh Generall, & other Commanders died) but new contagious diſeaſes, among which were ſtrange Fluxes, and a kind of pox unheard of.

The Emperours Army diſperſing all over for want of reſiſtance, did alſo ſcatter the contagion from their quarters at *Haylbrun*, through the Land of *Wirtenberg*, that many places hereby became utterly depopulated. But ſince *Gallas* his taking in the Townes upon the *Rhine*, ſuch an infection happened through the ſtinch of the dead unburied bodies, that in the Biſhopricke of *Ments* alone there died of this and hunger twenty foure thouſand people.

In *Saxony*, *Brandenburg*, *Pomeren*, *Mecklenburg*, &c. this yeare the peſtilence with like diſeaſes have beene ſo univerſall, that theſe and the ſword, ſeeme to ſtrive which ſhall be the greateſt deſtroyer. The retraite of the Swedes, in which they did not onely evade, but cut in pieces many of the enemies Troopes, is not ſo famous as theſe calamities. The very plague conſumed in *Saxony* the other day in the ſpace of two moneths, no leſſe than ſixteene thouſand

ſoules

that the King of *Hungary* hath given command that none ſhall come from thence to *Prague*, or the Cities of *Bohemia*.

As by the print of *Hercules* his foot you might gueſſe at his ſtature, ſo by theſe few particulars of the miſeries of ſome places there, we may gueſſe at the lamentable eſtate of the whole. The war having every where caught and raged, hath left ſuch wounds as will not in haſte be recured, and perhaps poſterity for ſome generations will ſee the ſcarres.

Thus is the Virgine daughter of that people deſtroyed with a great deſtruction, and with a ſore and greivous plague. Goe into the fieid, behold the ſlaine with the ſword. Enter into the City, behold them that are ſicke for hunger alſo. So are they ſmitten, but are not healed. They loke for peace, but there is no good; for the time of health, but behold trouble.

FINIS.

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Sam. Baker.

G. Rodolphus Weckherlin.